

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A wound retractor system comprising:-

a retractor having a retracting ~~member~~ sleeve for insertion into a wound opening, wherein the retractor includes a distal portion including a portion of the retracting sleeve and a distal ring; and

an insertion tool for inserting or assisting the insertion of or deployment of the ~~retracting member in the wound opening~~ distal portion such that the distal ring is located within a body cavity and the retracting sleeve lines the wound opening, wherein the insertion tool includes including a groove for receiving the distal portion of the retractor for mounting the retractor to the insertion tool, and at least a portion of the insertion tool is configured to penetrate the wound opening such that, in a deployment position, the distal ring is positioned to intersect a central longitudinal axis of the insertion tool, and the distal ring extends generally in the direction of the longitudinal axis.

2-5. (Cancelled).

6. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 5 1 wherein the distal ring ~~member~~ is of flexible material.

7. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 5 1 wherein the distal ring ~~member~~ is of elastomeric material.

8. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 1 wherein the insertion tool comprises an elongate member having a distal end.

9. (Withdrawn - Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 8 wherein the distal end of the insertion tool has a cutting blade for penetrating the wound opening by piercing.

10-13. (Cancelled).

14. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 1 wherein the insertion tool comprises a handle.

15. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 1 wherein the insertion tool has a wound extending portion with a transverse dimension of from 3 to 35 mm.

16. (Original) A system as claimed in claim 15 wherein the transverse dimension of the wound extending portion is from 5 to 12 mm.

17. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 1 wherein the wound retractor comprises:

a proximal member for location externally of a wound opening;

the proximal member being movable relative to the retracting ~~member~~ sleeve to shorten the axial extent of the retracting ~~member~~ sleeve to laterally retract a wound opening.

18. (Withdrawn) A system as claimed in claim 17 wherein the proximal member comprises an annular ring means.

19. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 18 wherein the annular ring means comprises an inner ring and an outer ring between which the retracting ~~member~~ sleeve may be lead.

20. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 19 wherein one of the rings defines a projection for location in a complimentary recess of the outer ring with the retracting ~~member~~ sleeve located therebetween.

21. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 20 wherein the projection is a relatively tight fit in the recess to grip the retracting ~~member~~ sleeve therebetween.

22. (Withdrawn) A system as claimed in claim 20 wherein the projection is locatable in the recess in a snap-fit manner.

23. (Withdrawn) A system as claimed in claim 20 wherein the inner ring defines the projection and the outer ring defines the recess.

24. (Withdrawn) A system as claimed in claim 20 wherein the outer ring defines the projection and the inner ring defines the recess.

25. (Withdrawn) A system as claimed in claim 17 wherein the proximal member comprises one or more valves to facilitate sealed access of an object through the proximal member.

26. (Cancelled).

27. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 26 1 wherein the distal ~~member~~ ring comprises an O-ring.

28. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 26 1 wherein the distal ~~member~~ ring comprises an annular disc.

29. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 26 1 wherein the distal ~~member~~ ring is of a resilient material.

30. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 17 wherein the retracting ~~member~~ sleeve is flared distally outwardly.

31. (Withdrawn) A system as claimed in claim 17 wherein the retractor comprises means to seal a retracted wound opening.

32. (Withdrawn) A system as claimed in claim 31 wherein the sealing means is provided externally of a wound opening.

33. (Withdrawn) A system as claimed in claim 31 wherein the sealing means is mountable to the proximal member.

34. (Withdrawn) A system as claimed in claim 33 wherein the sealing means comprises a cap.

35. (Withdrawn) A system as claimed in claim 31 wherein the sealing means comprises a valve to facilitate sealed access of an object through the sealing means.

36. (Withdrawn) A system as claimed in claim 35 wherein the object comprises an instrument.

37-54. (Cancelled).

55. (Currently Amended) A wound retractor system comprising:-

a retractor having a retracting member for insertion into a wound opening,  
wherein the retractor includes a distal portion; and

an insertion tool for inserting or assisting the insertion of or deployment of the  
distal portion through the wound opening, wherein the insertion tool includes a groove-  
~~for receiving the distal portion of the retractor for mounting the retractor to the insertion-~~  
~~tool~~ unitary shaft including a distal end portion, the distal end portion including a  
retractor receiving portion configured to position the distal portion generally in the  
direction of a central longitudinal axis of the insertion tool, and the retractor receiving  
portion including an opening facing the wound opening during deployment.

56. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 55, wherein the distal  
portion comprises a distal ring member mounted to the retracting member.

57. (Currently Amended) A system as claimed in claim 55 wherein the ~~insertion-~~  
~~tool comprises a distal end~~ portion is configured to penetrate the wound opening.

58. (Currently Amended) A wound retractor system comprising:-  
a retractor having a retracting member for insertion into a wound opening,  
wherein the retractor includes a distal portion including a distal ring; and  
an insertion tool for inserting or assisting the insertion of or deployment of the  
retracting member in the wound opening, wherein the insertion tool includes ~~an opening-~~  
~~for completely receiving at least a portion of the distal portion of the retractor for~~

~~mounting the retractor to the insertion tool, and a blunted end for insertion into the wound opening~~

a groove for receiving the distal portion such that, in a deployment position, the distal ring extends generally in the direction of the longitudinal axis, and  
a taper in a plane normal to a plane formed by the distal ring in the deployment position.

59. (Cancelled).

60. (Cancelled).

61. (New) A system as claimed in claim 55, wherein the retractor receiving portion includes a groove and the opening forms a part of the groove.